

In 1897 there were 216 black entrepreneurs and 789 white entrepreneurs. After the riot, the number fell dramatically for blacks to 162, a 25% decline; in contrast, for whites there was a mere 2% decline. Thus the ratio of white to black businesses rose from 3.6 to 4.8. This suggests that not only did the riot have an adverse impact on black business development, it also suggests that the riot may have created a relatively favorable business environment for whites.